## Plans Preparation Manual (U.S. Customary Units)



**Section 2 – Project Plans** 

September 2018

## 2-2.9 Contour Grading Plans

Contour grading plan sheets are to be used where the shapes of the embankments and cuts are variable, warped, or complex. Contour grading is required because cross sections can not show smooth grading transitions. A good example of the need for contour grading is bridge embankments.

When contour grading is used, show existing and proposed contours, cut and fill lines, and benching. Pavement elevations may be shown.

The labeling of existing contours and spot elevations shown on the topographic base mapping does not need to be rotated to conform to the reading directions shown in Figure 2-1 of this manual. New contour line elevation labeling shall conform to the reading directions shown in Figure 2-1.

Existing contours shall appear as dropped out. New contour grading shall be shown as solid lines. Index contour lines will be every fifth contour, shown as heavier weight lines elevations. and labeled with their Intermediate contours are shown as medium weight lines and are not to be labeled with elevations. In very steep terrain (at any scale), intermediate contours may be eliminated if the contour lines are so close together that they affect the readability of the plans. See Section 2-1.2 of this manual for contour intervals.

On large complex projects, contour grading may be shown on separate sheets. Contour grading, when minimal, may be shown on the layout plan sheets or the drainage plan sheets where the addition of the contour grading to such sheets will not produce sheets which are cluttered, unreadable, or confusing.

Each sheet of the contour grading plans shall have the following note included on them: "APPROVED FOR CONTOUR GRADING WORK ONLY."





Section 2 – Project Plans

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